

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 IO-13 JUSE-00
NSAE-00 CTME-00 SNM-05 TRSE-00 ICA-11 NSC-05
OES-07 OMB-01 AID-05 AGRE-00 /081 W
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FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7847

DEA HQ WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY KABUL

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ISLAMABAD 6189

DEA FOR FROST/IGRP

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR, PK

SUBJECT: IMPACT OF EXPANSION OF OPIUM PRODUCTION IN PAKISTAN,
AFGHANISTAN ON IRANIAN MARKET

REF: DEA 17542

1. MISSION THINKS REFTEL MAKES TWO ASSUMPTIONS REGARDING THE
REASONS FOR INCREASED POPPY CULTIVATION IN PAKISTAN WHICH ARE NOT
SUPPORTED BY THE AVAILABLE INFORMATION. OUR EVIDENCE IS THAT
FARMERS IN PAKISTAN GROW POPPIES BECAUSE THEY CAN MAKE MORE MONEY
GROWING POPPIES THAN ANY OTHER CROP REGARDLESS OF WHETHER THE
PRICE OF OPIUM IS HIGH OR LOW IN A GIVEN YEAR. ALSO, THE LACK OF
ANY ENFORCEMENT THREAT MAKES IT A SAFE CROP SIMILAR TO WHEAT OR
TOBACCO. WHILE INTERNATIONAL DEMAND IS A MAJOR FACTOR IN THE
CURRENT PRICE OF OPIUM, FARMERS IN THE NWFP WOULD CONTINUE TO
GROW LARGE QUANTITIES OF OPIUM IF THERE WAS A SUBSTANTIAL DROP IN
THE PRICE SINCE THE PROFIT MARGINS DIFFER SO GREATLY BETWEEN

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POPPIES AND ANY OTHER CROP.

2. IN ADDITION, THE IMPACT ON THE PRICE TO THE FARMER OF THE
OPIUM USED IN THE ILLICIT MORPHINE AND HEROIN CONVERSION
LABORATORIES IS UNKNOWN AT THIS TIME. WE ARE INVESTIGATING THIS
ASPECT, BUT WE THINK THAT CURRENT LABORATORY CONSUMPTION IS ONLY
ONE OF THE FACTORS IN THE PRICE RISE.

HUMMEL

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
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Concepts: OPIUM, PRODUCTION, MARKETS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 jun 1978
Decapton Date: 01 jan 1960
Decapton Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780617/aaaaaoiv.tel
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Message ID: 4626667f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
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